

HOUSE RESOLUTION 132
By Brooks (Knox)

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mabel Acuff on the celebration of her 90th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Mabel Acuff will celebrate her 90th birthday on May 7, 2003, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Knox County, Mabel Acuff is a highly respected member of her community; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of James and Cora Damewood Wolfe, Mrs. Acuff was born in Luttrell; and

WHEREAS, when she was eight years old, her family moved to Corryton, where she has lived ever since, attending Corryton School and graduating from Gibbs High School in 1930; and

WHEREAS, after attending Milligan College for two years on a scholarship, Mabel Acuff transferred to the University of Tennessee, earning her Bachelor's degree in 1934; and

WHEREAS, initiating her career as an educator, Mrs. Acuff taught fifth and sixth grades at John Sevier School for two years; upon her transfer to Corryton Elementary School, she instructed third and fourth grade students; and

WHEREAS, in 1939, Mabel Acuff began teaching at Gibbs High School; initially teaching English, history, and music, she became a Guidance Counselor in 1960, which position she held until her retirement in 1978; and

WHEREAS, for 43 years, Mrs. Acuff served with acumen and alacrity as a teacher and guidance counselor with Knox County Schools, earning the respect of her colleagues and students alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 1942, Mabel Wolfe was joined in marriage with Herbert Acuff, just five months before he was drafted into the Armed Forces; he served in England, France, Belgium, and Germany during World War II before being discharged in 1945; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Acuff returned to the United States, commencing employment with Knox County as the Director of Central Accounting until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mabel Acuff is grateful to share both love and companionship with her son, Gary Acuff, his wife, Ann, and her grandsons, Bryan and David; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Acuff evinces her devout religious faith as a member of Little Flat Creek Baptist Church; a longtime member of this faith community, Mrs. Acuff has taught Adult Sunday School and continues to serve as the substitute pianist and organist; and

WHEREAS, as she approaches her tenth decade, Mabel Acuff is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events; she is a valuable member of the Corryton Community Senior Citizens group and serves as Secretary of the Senior Citizens Club at Union Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Acuff also loves to travel and has recently visited Alaska, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby congratulate Mabel Acuff on the celebration of her 90th birthday and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.